

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently amended) A worn article, comprising a fitting portion for fitting adapted to fit around a torso of a wearer and including an elastic member sandwiched between two sheets of nonwoven fabric, and an absorbent portion adapted for covering a crotch of the wearer and absorbing body fluid from the wearer, wherein:

the absorbent portion includes a first end portion and a second end portion that are connected to the fitting portion;

the first end portion of the absorbent portion is detachable from the fitting portion; and

the fitting portion includes an abdominal-side portion adapted for covering an abdominal side of the wearer, and a back-side portion adapted for covering a back side of the wearer;

the first end portion of the absorbent portion is connected to the abdominal-side portion of the fitting portion, and the second end portion of the absorbent portion is connected to the back-side portion of the fitting portion;

the first end portion is detachably touch-fastened to the abdominal-side portion of the fitting portion; and

a cover sheet covers at least a portion of an exterior surface of the first end portion which is opposite to a surface facing the skin surface of the wearer, an upper edge of the first end portion extending in a torso direction, and at least a portion of an outer surface, to which the first end portion is touch-fastened, of the abdominal-side portion of the fitting portion during wearing;

wherein, when the article is worn, the cover sheet is at least partially removable to expose the exterior surface of the first end portion of the absorbent portion to an exterior of the worn article for detaching the absorbent portion from the fitting portion;

a portion of the cover sheet that is covering the first end portion or a vicinity thereof is formed to be tearable;

in the touch-fastened first end portion, an inner surface of the absorbent portion is facing the outer surface of the abdominal-side portion of the fitting portion, and an inner surface of the cover sheet is facing an outer surface of the absorbent portion; and
the fitting portion, the absorbent portion and the cover sheet are layered in this order starting from an inner side in a position corresponding to the first end portion.

2. (Original) A worn article according to claim 1, wherein:
the cover sheet is processed so that the cover sheet is tearable; and
a fastener member for detachably fastening together the absorbent portion and the fitting portion is placed on the absorbent portion or the fitting portion in a vicinity of the processed portion of the cover sheet.
3. (Canceled)
4. (Canceled)
5. (Currently Amended) A worn article according to claim 1 [3], wherein a tearable portion for tearing the cover sheet is formed in the cover sheet by processing the cover sheet so that at least a portion of the first end portion of the absorbent portion will be exposed to an exterior of the article when the cover sheet is torn along the tearable portion.
6. (Currently Amended) A worn article according to claim 1 [3], wherein the cover sheet covers at least an upper edge of the first end portion of the absorbent portion.
7. (Currently Amended) A method for producing a worn article according to claim 1 [4], wherein a member forming the absorbent portion and the cover sheet are placed on a web forming the fitting portion while carrying the web, the method comprising the steps of:
processing a portion of the cover sheet to be tearable;

carrying the web in a longitudinal direction of the web;
placing the member forming the absorbent portion on the web so that the member overlaps at least a portion of the web; and
placing the member forming the absorbent portion on the cover sheet so that the member overlaps at least a portion of the cover sheet processed to be tearable,
wherein the member forming the absorbent portion is sandwiched between the cover sheet processed to be tearable and the web as a result of carrying out the above steps.

8. (Canceled)

9. (New) A worn article according to claim 1, wherein:

a tearable portion processed for tearing the cover sheet is formed in the cover sheet,

a member for fastening is provided to the inner surface of the cover sheet, and to one of the outer surface of the abdominal-portion of the fitting portion and the outer surface of the absorbent portion so that the inner surface of the cover sheet comes off from the outer surface of the abdominal-side portion of the fitting portion and the outer surface of the absorbent portion, and the inner surface of the cover sheet is detachably touch-fastened to the outer surface of the abdominal-side portion of the fitting portion and the outer surface of the absorbent portion.

10. (New) A worn article according to claim 1, wherein:

the first end portion has a side edge that is in vicinity to the upper edge and that extends in a vertical direction,

the cover sheet covers the side edge of the first end portion, and

the cover sheet also covers an entirety of the upper edge of the first end portion.

11. (New) A worn article according to claim 2, wherein:

the first end portion has a side edge that is in vicinity to the upper edge and that extends in a vertical direction,

the cover sheet covers the side edge of the first end portion, and

the cover sheet also covers an entirety of the upper edge of the first end portion.

12. (New) A worn article according to claim 9, wherein:

the first end portion has a side edge that is in vicinity to the upper edge and that extends in a vertical direction,

the cover sheet covers the side edge of the first end portion, and

the cover sheet also covers an entirety of the upper edge of the first end portion.